



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

Agenda Item No.

17

City Manager's Approval

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Reg Murray, Senior Planner
Date: February 27, 2012
Subject: Planning Commission Priority Issues in 2012

The Issue

Informational item only.

Conclusions and Recommendations

No action is required.

Background

The Auburn City Council passed a resolution in 2007 encouraging the Planning Commission to identify and discuss planning issues which they believe are pertinent to the City of Auburn and make recommendations to City Council regarding those issues.

The Planning Commission met on February 7, 2012 to review their priorities. After a brief discussion, the Commission decided to maintain the priorities they previously identified in 2011:

- Support for the continued monitoring of parking in Old Town and Downtown.
- Reaffirmed interest in updating the zoning ordinance, with specific emphasis on an update of the sign ordinance and creation of hillside development standards.
- Reaffirmed interest in the establishment of an ad hoc committee to develop a Trails Master Plan.

At the February 7th hearing, staff also updated the Planning Commission on its progress with the update of the sign ordinance as well as several additional priorities that developed over the course of the last year. While progress has been made on the sign ordinance update (i.e. an administrative draft is nearing completion), staff has addressed several additional priorities over the past year which has impacted its completion, including:

1. Establishing and administering the HOME First Time Home Buyer program and the HOME Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program.
2. Review and assist Auburn Recreation District with their nexus report and fee study.
3. El Toyon Institute project on 209-215 Brook Road.
4. Annexation - 890 Foresthill Avenue.

5. Parking management for Old Town and Downtown.
6. FEP and General Plan fee review and coordination.
7. Redevelopment Agency and the Mercy housing project - funding issues due to the State.
8. Reduction in staffing, which eliminated the last clerical position. The Public Service Counter is now staffed by planners and building inspectors.
9. Sierra Business Council, Green Communities Program. Inventory and greenhouse gas footprint for City government and entire City of Auburn.
10. Performance-based budgeting for City departments with description of department duties/projects.
11. Participate in the SACOG Planners Committee for development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).
12. Elm Plaza project at 373 Elm. Assisting Citizens Bank and Tri Counties Bank.
13. Right-of-way/street issues
 - a. Sale of McKenzie Court right-of-way to Citizens Bank
 - b. Renaming of New Airport Road
 - c. Sale of Toyon Drive/Olive Orchard Drive right-of-way

One of the reasons to update the sign ordinance was to address temporary signage (banners and a-frames). City Council extended the temporary sign provisions for one year in April of 2011. Since that deadline is approaching and the economy has not improved significantly, staff will be bringing the issue back to Council in the near future for reconsideration.

The projects list reflecting the Planning Commission's priorities as well as staff's current projects is provided as Attachment 1.

Attachment:

1. Priority Projects List

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - SPECIAL PROJECTS LIST

(2/7/12)

Project		Comments
PLANNING COMMISSION		* Commission priority
1	Zoning Ordinance Update*	CDD preparing first Admin Draft. 3/26/07 - Sign Ord Update 3/15/11 - Include hillside development standards per BRSP 4/11/11 - Council direction to proceed with update of the sign ordinance
2	Parking Management*	3/15/11 - PC supports continued monitoring of Old Town and Downtown parking and application of policy recommendations per the Walker Parking Study
3	Trails Master Plan*	2/5/08 - Establish a Trails Master Plan (Worthington); 2/17/09 - PC requests an ad hoc committee be established to begin working on the Plan. 3/9/09 - Council supported ad hoc committee; approach to be directed back to Council for review and approval. 3/15/11 - Commissioners Snyder & Worthington volunteered to initiate the process.
HDRC		* Commission priority
4	Historic Design Review Guidelines	2/7/12 - Amend the Historic Design Review Guidelines to include elements from the Auburn Streetscape project.
STAFF		* Staff priority
5	FEP & General Plan Fee updates *	Update the FEP fee and establish a fee towards the update of the General Plan
6	ARD Park Fee Analysis	Review ARD park fee request and Nexus Study
7	HOME Grants	Administer the following grants awarded January 2011 - a) First Time Home Buyer b) Rehabilitation Assistance
8	Certified Local Government	Nov 2011 - Research CLG. Dec 2011 - submit pre-application to CLG for review. Feb 2012 - response received from SHPO
9	Housing Element Implementation	Complete programs from the 2008-2013 Housing Element (on-going) Second Half 2012 - Initiate 2013 Housing Element Update

10	New Ordinances	a) Massage Ordinance b) Water Efficiency/Landscape Ordinance c) Wireless Facilities Ordinance
11	SACOG	Coordinate with SACOG regarding Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)
12	Parking Management	Update parking counts and report on the findings.
13	General Plan Implementation	Complete programs from the General Plan
14	General Plan Update	Establish process for updates to the General Plan on an element-by-element basis.
15	General Plan Land Use Map	Finalize digital update of the General Plan Land Use Map
16	School Park Preserve	Development Agreement and Park Management Plan (<i>in process</i>); draft copy circulated
17	Sign Enforcement	Banner and A-frame enforcement
18	CDBG Business Loan Program	

P:Annual PC&CC Reporting/2012/PC Priority Projects/CC-PC Special Projects List 2-7-12